BOROUGH

OF

# PONTEFRACT

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# Medical Officer of Health

and the

# Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1968

# BOROUGH

# OF

# PONTEFRACT

# ANNUAL REPORT

# OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

# FOR THE YEAR

# 1968.

BY

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Pontefract.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

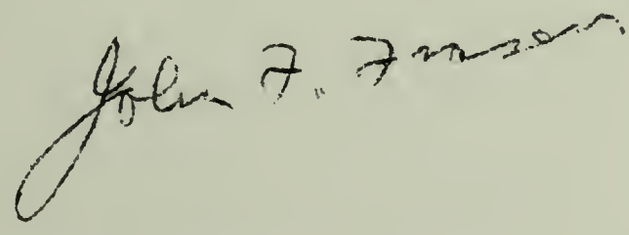
I have the honour to present for your information and consideration, a Report on the Health Services of the Borough during the year 1968.

The Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

# P O N T E F R A C T  B O R O U G H.

## MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1968.

Chairman: Alderman B. Wood.

Deputy Chairman: Alderman G. E. Poppleton.

Cr. P. Westerman (Mayor)

Alderman J. Blackburn O.B.E.

Alderman C. Dyer.

Cr. I. R. Bloomer.

Cr. R. Cunningham.

Cr. J. Dixon.

Cr. F. A. A. Gardiner.

Cr. C. I. Huddlestone.

Cr. Mrs. H. M. Parker.

Cr. D. Robinson.

Cr. L. Williams.

## PART ONE.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Borough : 4,865 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of civilian population: 30,200.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1968) according to the rate books: 9,475.

Rateable Value: 1968 - £869,769.

Sum represented by penny rate: 1968 - £3,500.

VITAL STATISTICS. (Registrar-General's - Registered during the year).

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1967.

BIRTHS.

| Live Births. | Male. | | Female. | | Total. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 249 | (286) | 266 | (283) | 515 | (569) |
| Illegitimate | 18 | (15) | 15 | (12) | 33 | (27) |
| | 267 | (301) | 281 | (295) | 548 | (596) |

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population: 18.1 (20.1)

Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population: 16.5 (18.3)

Percentage of illegitimate births: 6.02 (4.74)

| STILLBIRTHS. | Male. | | Female. | | Total. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 7 | (6) | 2 | (6) | 9 | (12) |
| Illegitimate | 1 | (-) | - | (-) | 1 | (-) |
| | 8 | (6) | 2 | (6) | 10 | (12) |

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)births: 18.0 (20.0)

Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population: 0.30 (0.40)

| DEATHS. | Male. | | Female. | | Total. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All age groups | 172 | (155) | 145 | (139) | 317 | (294) |

Infants under one year.

| | Male. | | Female. | | Total. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 4 | (3) | 2 | (8) | 6 | (11) |
| Illegitimate | - | (1) | 1 | (1) | 1 | (2) |
| | 4 | (4) | 3 | (9) | 7 | (13) |

MATERNAL DEATHS. Nil. (Nil)

Death Rates.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Crude Death rate per 1,000 population: | 10.5 | (9.9) |
| Adjusted Death rate per 1,000 population: | 12.4 | (11.8) |
| All infants per 1,000 live births: | 12.8 | (22.0) |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births: | 11.6 | (17.6) |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births: | 30.3 | (74) |
| Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and stillbirths: | Nil. | (Nil.) |

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table:

TABLE I.

| Cause of Death. | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Other Tuberculosis, incl. late effects. | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Malignant Neoplasm - stomach. | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, bronchus. | 14 | 6 | 20 |
| Malignant Neoplasm - breast. | - | 3 | 3 |
| Malignant Neoplasm - uterus. | - | 3 | 3 |
| Leukaemia. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. | 14 | 8 | 22 |
| Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms. | 1 | - | 1 |
| Diabetes Mellitus. | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Other Endocrine, etc. diseases. | - | 1 | 1 |
| Anaemias. | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other Diseases of Blood, etc. | - | 1 | 1 |
| Mental Disorders. | - | 1 | 1 |
| Meningitis. | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc. | 1 | - | 1 |
| Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Hypertensive Disease. | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease. | 32 | 30 | 62 |
| Other forms of heart disease. | 6 | 8 | 14 |
| Cerebrovascular Disease. | 22 | 24 | 46 |
| Other diseases of Circulatory System. | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Influenza. | - | 2 | 2 |
| Pneumonia. | 25 | 20 | 45 |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema. | 14 | 5 | 19 |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System. | 1 | - | 1 |
| Peptic Ulcer. | 2 | - | 2 |
| Other Diseases of Digestive System. | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate. | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System. | 3 | - | 3 |
| Congenital Anomalies. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality. | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents. | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| All other accidents. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Suicide and Self-inflicted injuries. | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| All other external causes. | - | 2 | 2 |
| Totals: | 172 | 145 | 317 |

The local death rate during the past 12 years is shown in the following Table.

| Year. | Death Rate. |
|---|---|
| 1957 | 9.7 |
| 1958 | 20.4 |
| 1959 | 11.2 |
| 1960 | 12.0 |
| 1961 | 10.6 |
| 1962 | 9.8 |
| 1963 | 10.7 |
| 1964 | 10.7 |
| 1965 | 9.6 |
| 1966 | 11.2 |
| 1967 | 9.9 |
| 1968 | 10.5 |

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives causes of Infant Deaths during the year 1968, classified into age groups:

TABLE II.

| Cause of Death. | Age Groups. | | | | | | | All ages Under 1 year. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under 1 wk. | 1-2 wks. | 2-4 wks | 1-3 mth. | 3-6 mth. | 6-9 mth. | 9-12 mth. | M | F | Total |
| Congenital Heart Lesion. | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Congenital Heart Disease. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Respiratory Failure. | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Prematurity. | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Totals: | 4 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 4 | 3 | 7 |

COMPARISON OF PONTEFRACT VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING AREAS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

TABLE III.

| | Pontefract Borough. | Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts. | West Riding Admin. County. | England and Wales (provisional figures). |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population). | | | | |
| Crude Rate: | 18.1 | 17.5 | 17.6 | 16.9 |
| Adjusted Rate: | 16.5 | 17.9 | 17.8 | - |
| DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population). | | | | |
| Crude Rate: | 10.5 | 12.3 | 11.6 | 11.9 |
| Adjusted Rate: | 12.4 | 12.9 | 12.6 | - |
| Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syphl. and other V.D. | * | * | * | * |
| Tuberculosis Respiratory. | - | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Tuberculosis Other. | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Tuberculosis - All Forms. | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.04 |
| Cancer - Lung, Bronchus. | 0.66 | 0.49 | 0.48 | 0.59 |
| Cancer - All forms. | 2.05 | 2.25 | 2.14 | 2.32 |
| Cerebrovascular Disease. | 1.52 | 1.89 | 1.76 | * |
| Heart and Circulatory Diseases. | 2.88 | 4.64 | 4.34 | * |
| Respiratory Diseases. | 2.22 | 1.74 | 1.66 | * |
| Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and stillbirths). | - | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.24 |
| Perinatal Mortality. | 25.1 | 25.8 | 25.0 | 24.7 |
| Neonatal Mortality: | 9.1 | 13.1 | 12.1 | 12.4 |
| Infant Mor ality. | 12.8 | 19.7 | 18.5 | 18.3 |
| Stillbirths (per 1,000 live and stillbirths). | 17.9 | 14.4 | 14.3 | 14.3 |

* Figures not available.

## PART TWO

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIVE AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

TABLE IV.

| | Jan/ Mar. | Apl/ June | Jul/ Sept. | Oct/ Dec. | Total | Deaths | Number of Cases admitted to Hospital. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever. | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | - | - |
| Whooping Cough. | - | - | 1 | 4 | 5 | - | - |
| Measles. | 1 | 15 | 59 | 11 | 86 | - | - |
| Acute Pneumonia. | 2 | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | 2 |
| Food Poisoning. | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 4 | - | 1 |
| Chickenpox. | 141 | 99 | 41 | 33 | 314 | - | - |
| Dysentery. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 9 | - | 9 |
| Erysipelas. | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - |
| Totals: | 147 | 120 | 105 | 54 | 426 | - | 12 |

### Diphtheria.

No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

### Vaccination and Immunisation.

287 children under the age of 5 years received a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus. 237 children under 5 years received a reinforcing injection against Diphtheria and Tetanus.

8 school children received a reinforcing injection against Diphtheria and 13 a reinforcing dose against Tetanus.

The percentage of school children who have been immunised against Diphtheria is 81.80%, against Tetanus, 79.83%, and against Poliomyelitis, 82.98%.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons.

TABLE V.

| Number of Cases on Register. | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Total on Register. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M | F | M | F | |
| At the commencement of 1968. | 98 | 62 | 17 | 20 | 197 |
| Notified for the first time during 1968. | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Restored to Register. | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inward Transfers. | 3 | - | 1 | - | 4 |
| Removed from Register. | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| Cases remaining on Register at the end of 1968. | 104 | 56 | 18 | 20 | 198 |

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:

TABLE VI.

| Entries Relating to: | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Total on Register. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M | F | M | F | |
| Persons who have died. | - | 3 | - | 1 | 4 |
| Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance to have recovered. | 3 | 2 | - | - | 5 |
| Revised diagnosis - not Tuberculosis. | - | - | - | - | - |
| Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district. | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 4 |
| Totals: | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 13 |

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of disease.

TABLE VII.

| Ages. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory. | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory. | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Under 5 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Under 15 | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – |
| Under 25 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Under 35 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Under 45 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | – |
| Under 55 | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Under 65 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Over 65 | 1 | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | – | 1 |
| Totals: | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | 3 | – | 1 |

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.

# PART III

# COUNTY COUNCIL

# OF THE

# WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

# DIVISION 12

Pontefract Municipal Borough
Featherstone Urban District
Knottingley Urban District
Osgoldcross Rural District

# ANNUAL REPORT

# OF THE

# DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

# 1968

BY

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

## Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1968

**Divisional Medical Officer.**

J. F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

**Senior Departmental Medical Officer and School Medical Officer**

Vacancy

**School Medical Officer** (Part-time)

J. Simons, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff**

**Ophthalmologist**

K. K. Prasher, M.B., B.S., D.O.

**Orthopaedic Surgeon**

R. W. L. Calderwood, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Oto-Rhino Laryngologist**

K. M. Mayall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

**Divisional Nursing Officer.**

Mrs. M. Craig

**Health Visitors and School Nurses**

Mrs. P. M. Brice
Mrs. B. Clarke
Miss L. O. I. Day
Miss A. Elsley.
Mrs. M. Faulkner
Miss B. N. Kennington
Miss M. Reading.
Mrs. M. P. Sawyer
Miss S. Sharpe
Mrs. E. M. Vipurse
Mrs. M. K. Walsh

**Assistant Health Visitor**

Mrs. L. Hudson

**Tuberculosis Health Visitor**

Mrs. E. W. Petch.

Midwives

Mrs. K. Berry
Miss K. Capper
Miss E. S. Essex
Mrs. E. Glover (Relief)
Miss C. Norton
Mrs. J. R. Pearson
Mrs. P. Philip
Mrs. A. M. Randall
Mrs. S. Whitehead

Home Nurses

Mrs. S. G. Cousins
Mrs. S. Eaton
Mrs. M. L. Etherington
Mrs. F. Green
Mrs. P. M. Long
Mrs. V. McVeigh
Mrs. A. Pearce
Mrs. J. M. Pycock
Mrs. D. Vause

Mental Welfare Officers

Miss M. Horsley.
Mr. G. F. G. Townend.

Speech Therapist

Mrs. N. Hepworth

Clerical Staff

Mr. W. Carver (Senior Clerk)
Mr. R. L. Smith (Deputy Senior Clerk)
Miss K. Duker
Miss J. M. E. Ellis
Miss J. M. Gibbons
Miss J. L. Newman
Miss M. A. Rooke
Miss A. Stainton
Mrs. E. M. Slack (Part-time)
Miss S. E. Wigham
Mrs. M. H. Carver (Part-time)
Mrs. P. Ramsdale (Part-time)
Mrs. S. Smith (Part-time)

## INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

The number of live births registered in the divisional area during 1968 was 1299 a decrease of 100 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE 18.0 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 20.2 in the previous year. It was higher than the West Riding Administrative County rate of 17.6 and the England and Wales birth rate of 16.9

### Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the divisional area after correction for transfers were 655 an increase of 11 compared with 1967.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The West Riding Administrative area was 11.6 and England and Wales, 11.9

### Infant Mortality.

In 1968 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 13, a decrease of 18 compared with 1967. The Infant Mortality was 10.2 as against 22.2 in the previous year.

### Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the divisional area during the year.

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

### Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1274 notified live births, 373 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 21 of these cases.

### Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the division:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Death of mother | - |
| Death of child | - |
| Still Births | 1 |
| Liability to be source of infection | - |

### Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by Midwives during 1968 numbered 11, all of these being domiciliary.

### Analgesia.

All the domociliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with a Trilene Analgesia Machine.

Pethidine only was given in 74 cases. Trilene was administered in 37 cases and with Pethidine in 132 cases.

## Ante-natal Clinics.

There were two Ante-natal Clinics in the Division which were held at Pontefract and Knottingley. The ante-natal session at Knottingley was discontinued from the 1st July, 1968. During the year 137 patients attended. The total number of attendances was 539. 26 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

## Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at Pontefract and Featherstone clinics.

These have continued to be fairly well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 501.

## Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

During the year accommodation was provided for all applicants having their first baby, and for all those with home conditions unsuitable for a domiciliary confinement. Of the remaining applicants a high proportion were allotted beds.

## Cervical Cytology.

A clinic is held each week at the Central Clinic, Trinity Street, Pontefract. Facilities for this examination are now available to all married women.

During 1968 39 sessions were held and 532 women examined.

## CHILD WELFARE.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley. A mobile caravan type clinic visits the Parishes of Whitley Bridge, Womersley, Eggborough, Brotherton, Kellington, Heck, Hensall, Monk Fryston and Fairburn in the Osgoldcross Rural District, at fortnightly intervals.

The new Health Centre at Hazel Road, Knottingley was opened in July, 1968 and the Chapel Street clinic premises were closed.

During 1968 2752 children attended at clinics and they made 18429 attendances.

The following proprietory preparations were available at cost prices to all women attending at the Clinics:-

Ostermilk No. 2
Trufood, humanised.
Cow and Gate, full cream.
Minadex.
Trufood Cereal.
Adexolin.
Scotts Twin Pack.
Farex.
Robinson's Groats.
Robinson's Triple Pack.
Robrex.
Robsoup.
Rose Hip Syrup.

The annual turnover of baby food, etc., is approximately £6,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

Ascorbic Acid.
Fersamel Syrup.
Ferrous Fumerate Tablets.
Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

## Premature Babies.

During the year 95 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the division, and 16 were born at home.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

### Medical Inspections.

Hitherto school children have been examined as a matter of routine at the following intervals:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Entrants | 5 years + |
| Second Age Group | 7 years + |
| Intermediate years | 10 years + |
| Leavers | 14 years + |

With effect from September 1968 it was decided to retain as routine examinations only the first (Entrants) and the last (Leavers). In the intervening years the parents are asked to complete a Health Questionnaire and only those children thought to require examination are dealt with. This allows the School Medical Officer to give more attention to the children likely to have defects.

The re-examination of children who, at previous periodical or special examination had been found to have defects, was made at each school medical inspection.

During the year, 3699 children received a full medical examination. A further 1046 children who had been found to have defects at previous examinations were also examined.

### General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination, and 99.64% were classified as satisfactory and only 0.36% as unsatisfactory.

### Uncleanliness.

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 30049 examinations of children in schools. Of these 312 individual children were found to be infested.

## SPECIAL CLINICS.

### Ophthalmic Clinics.

Dr. K.K.Prasher holds a weekly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1429 children were examined. Of these, 528 were prescribed glasses.

### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M.Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract for children from this division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 24 sessions and saw 118 children. In all, the children made 313 attendances.

## Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 9 sessions were held. 67 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 75.

## Child Guidance Treatment.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. Dr. K. Maxwell held consultant sessions.

Mr. P. Atkinson, Psychologist and Mrs. P.Y.Harris, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the clinic.

## Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist, held clinics on two half-days each week at Pontefract Central Clinic. In addition she has one session each week at the Castle Day E.S.N. School and at the Knottingley Clinic. During the year 184 sessions were held and 104 children were treated.

## Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

## Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training Colleges.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to Training Colleges for the purpose of satisfying the College authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 83 candidates were examined and where necessary X-Ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession 17 examinations were made.

## B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered for the first time to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

In addition, vaccination is offered each year to those pupils over the age of 13 years, who have previously been absent or whose parents have not consented. Each child has, therefore, a continuing opportunity to be vaccinated before leaving school.

| No. of consent forms issued. | No. of affirmative consent forms received. | Mantoux Test. | Mantoux Negative. | Mantoux Positive. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 839 | 482 | 415 | 377 | 38 |

| Not Ascertained. | B.C.G. Vaccination. |
|---|---|
| - | 356 |

## HEALTH VISITING.

During the year the following people were visited:-

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of children under one year of age | 1215 |
| No. of children aged one year & under 2 years | 1208 |
| No. of children aged 2 years & under 5 years | 2820 |
| Persons aged 65 or over (excluding domestic help service visits) | 1352 |
| Total number of cases visited | 9166 |

## HOME NURSING.

During the year 25,211 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 21624 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

| Classification. | No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during year. | No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year. |
|---|---|---|
| (1) Medical | 902 | 19386 |
| (2) Surgical | 380 | 5021 |
| (3) Infectious Diseases | 67 | 129 |
| (4) Tuberculosis | 5 | 195 |
| (5) Maternal Complications | 35 | 280 |
| (6) Other | 20 | 200 |
| TOTALS:- | 1409 | 25211 |
| Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year. | 639 | 17380 |
| Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year. | 162 | 512 |
| Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year. | 233 | 17679 |

## CHIROPODY SERVICE

A free chiropody service is provided for the following categories of patient:

(a) Expectant Mothers.
(b) Persons of Pensionable age. (i.e. Males over 65, Females over 60.)
(c) Handicapped Persons.

Clinics are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics. Patients who are unable, on health grounds, to attend the clinics, are treated in their homes.

In 1968 680 patients were treated at the Clinics, and made 2033 attendances. 431 patients were treated at home and 1755 treatments given.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

(a) Ill
(b) Lying-in.
(c) Aged.
(d) Expectant Mother
(e) Mental Defective
(f) A child not over compulsory school age.

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division at 31st December, 1968 was 47.

### Authorised Divisional Establishment

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Basic | 47 |
| (ii) | From Reserve | 1.25 |
| (iii) | Total | 48.25 |

### No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1968

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Whole-time | - |
| (ii) | Part-time | 70 |
| (iii) | Total | 70 |

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December, 1968

| | No. of cases | Hours Employed |
|---|---|---|
| Under 65 | | |
| (i) Maternity (including expectant mothers) | 17 | 593 |
| (ii) Chronic Sick and Tuberculous | 92 | 3,118 |
| (iii) Others | 15 | 312 |
| Over 65 | 583 | 97,499 |
| | 707 | 101,522 |

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time - 48.81

## MENTAL HEALTH

Much good work in this field was carried out during the year by the two Mental Welfare Officers working in the Division.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF

In 1968, 49 examinations were made of staff in connection with superannuation.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION IN SCHOOLS

In 1962 the school immunisation programme was extended to include protection against Tetanus. There has been growing emphasis for this in recent years and it can now be administered in a combined form with Diphtheria.

By the end of 1968 out of a school population of 12,782 children, 10,124 had received protection against Diphtheria representing 79.20% of the population, whilst in the six years that Tetanus protection has been available, 9,937 (77.74%) children have been immunised against Tetanus.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis was also introduced into the school programme in 1964 in order to improve the immunity rate. 10,301 school children are now protected against this disease, representing 80.58% of the school population.

The ready co-operation of the headteachers is very much appreciated in these schemes, the success of which is shown in the high immunity rates achieved amongst school children.

## VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

During 1968,382 primary vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out.

## THE CHILD NEGLECTED IN ITS OWN HOME

Meetings of the Co-Ordinating Committee for the care of the child neglected in its own home were held.

These meetings attended by representatives of the Health, Welfare, Education and Children's Departments of the County Council, the Health and Housing Departments of the County District Councils, together with the Probation Officer, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector and National Assistance Board Officer, were helpful in providing an interchange of information and a co-ordinated approach to the individual case.

## APPENDIX

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

### Prescribed particulars required by Section 153(1)

1. Inspections made:

| | No. on Register | Inspections | No. of written notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A. | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| (b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. | 90 | 47 | 21 | - |
| (c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers premises) | 4 | 4 | - | - |
| Totals | 96 | 52 | 21 | - |

2. Cases in Which Defects were found:

| | No. of cases in which defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | Referred by H.M. Inspector | |
| Sanitary conveniences (section 7) | | | | | |
| Insufficient | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Unsuitable or defective | 6 | 6 | - | - | - |
| All other defects | 22 | 12 | - | - | - |
| Totals | 29 | 19 | - | - | - |

3. Outworkers

| Nature of Work | No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110(1)(c). | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecu-tions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Making wearing apparel | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| All other work | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |

J.F. Fraser,

Medical Officer of Health.

November, 1969.

# B O R O U G H  O F  P O N T E F R A C T

# A N N U A L  R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

Year ended Thirty-first December, 1968

---

S.C.L. WILSON.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Municipal Offices,

Pontefract.

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Borough of Pontefract

## Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

Mrs. Parker and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report of work carried out by the Department's inspectorate during 1968. The narrative content of the Report is intended to provide members with a measure of interest to supplement the statistical information. The Report is divided into four parts, each occupying roughly the same amount of Departmental time; Housing, Air Pollution, Food Control and General Hygiene.

The volume of work required to be undertaken by your inspectors continues to expand and out of necessity this Report is prepared towards the end of 1969. Equally the nature of the work load demands the development of specialised knowledge and skills in order to cope with technical advances in the field of environmental health.

During the year the Council encouraged the attendance of inspectors at several courses of instruction, covering such diverse subjects as housing legislation and procedures, noise control, radiation hazards, environmental pollution, meat inspection and veterinary science. The knowledge acquired on these occasions has been of inestimable value to the Department and I am appreciative of the opportunity and encouragement given to inspectors.

With the future of local government closely linked to the Redcliffe-Maud proposals there is bound to be a period of considerable uncertainty for many local authorities. What is certain is the role undertaken by those who serve the needs of the public in the field of environmental health; there can be no substitute for intimate local contact, coupled with pride on one's town. Where this exists, the personal service is unlikely to be improved upon, whatever the future holds.

In conclusion it would be remiss if I did not express my indebtedness to a loyal and hardworking staff, and whilst I take this annual opportunity to make acknowledgement it is nonetheless sincere and merited.

I am, Mrs. Parker and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,
Pontefract.

November, 1969.

## Section One

## HOUSING CONDITIONS

House Provision - Overcrowding - Slum Clearance - Fitness of Dwellings - Houses in Multi-Occupation - Certificates of Disrepair - Improvement Grants - Common Lodging Houses

### House Provision

Since post-war house building began 23 years ago, some 5,175 dwellings have been erected in the Borough - 541 of these during the year under review - as detailed in Table 1. This figure is the highest since 1954. Of even more significance is that the 390 dwellings erected by the Corporation in 1968 establishes a record for post-war years. A proportion of these new dwellings have been allocated to miners displaced from areas subject to pit closures and accords to an agreed policy between the Corporation and National Coal Board.

Table 1. New Housing 1946 - 1968

| Year | No. of dwellings erected* | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | By the Corporation | | By Housing Association | By Private Enterprise | |
| | Permanent | Temporary | | | |
| 1946 | 6 | 25 | | 23 | 54 |
| 1947 | 159 | | | 39 | 198 |
| 1948 | 161 | | | 26 | 187 |
| 1949 | 134 | | | 11 | 145 |
| 1950 | 104 | | | 12 | 116 |
| 1951 | 86 | | | 9 | 95 |
| 1952 | 105 | | | 11 | 116 |
| 1953 | 108 | | 178 | 19 | 305 |
| 1954 | 73 | | 536 | 41 | 650 |
| 1955 | 35 | | | 47 | 82 |
| 1956 | 26 | | | 65 | 91 |
| 1957 | 88 | | | 76 | 164 |
| 1958 | 6 | | | 140 | 146 |
| 1959 | 68 | | | 164 | 232 |
| 1960 | 107 | | | 192 | 299 |
| 1961 | 91 | | | 185 | 276 |
| 1962 | 108 | | | 134 | 242 |
| 1963 | 63 | | | 182 | 245 |
| 1964 | 34 | | | 180 | 214 |
| 1965 | 85 | | | 209 | 294 |
| 1966 | 156 | | | 134 | 290 |
| 1967 | 33 | | | 122 | 155 |
| 1968 | 390 | | | 151 | 541 |
| Total | 2,226 | 25 | 714 | 2,172 | 5,137 |

*Excluding 38 temporary dwellings, subsequently demolished.

At the end of 1968 the number of applicants for Corporation dwellings living in the Borough was 775 many of whom, when due for investigation by the Housing Department, may well have found other accommodation.

Of these 775 applicants, 106 were persons living in lodgings at the time of application, and 215 elderly persons seeking accommodation more suited to their needs; this latter group therefore represents over one quarter of the total applicants. Only 25 of the elderly were living in lodgings, and the provision of a sufficient number of new units specific to the needs of the elderly would release much under-occupied accommodation and contribute substantially to the meeting of the general housing needs. Some 247 bungalows already provided for elderly persons, supplemented by 121 bedsitter flats - mainly let to elderly persons - are clearly inadequate and further units are either under construction or in the pipeline at advanced planning stages particularly for the Chequerfield, Eastbourne and Ladybalk areas.

Table 2. Provision of Housing Accommodation for Elderly Persons

| In the year | No. of 'elderly person' units in the Borough | As % of all Corporation housing |
|---|---|---|
| 1940 | 18 | 1.3 |
| 1950 | 32 | 1.7 |
| 1960 | 85 | 3.2 |
| 1963 | 217 | 7.5 |
| 1965 | 273 | 8.8 |
| 1966 | 357 | 11.2 |
| 1967 | 357 | 11.2 |
| 1968 | 368 | 9.7 |

Overcrowding

In this Report 'statutory overcrowding' refers to the gross state of over-occupation which constitutes an offence under the Housing Act 1957. Such overcrowding occurs when the number of persons sleeping in a house exceeds the 'permitted number' of persons, as given in the rent book. The number of cases found and abated during the six years are given in Table 3, from which it may be deduced that Pontefract is substantially free from many of the grosser problems to be found in the congested parts of cities with houses in multi-occupation and the attendant evils of overcrowding and insanitary conditions.

The statutory standard was laid down over thirty years ago, and in my opinion, fails completely to measure up to modern ideas on the subject. Because of this low standard many families of only four or five persons, having insufficient bedroom accommodation and being clearly in need of rehousing, do not necessarily qualify for the statutory priority accorded to 'over-crowded' applicants for local authority tenancies.

It is however fair comment to say that the Council will always examine most sympathetically those cases of 'near'statutory overcrowding' with a deep concern for the wider social implication that are not always

revealed by reference to the 'permitted number' of persons allowed to occupy a dwelling.

Table 3. Incidence and Abatement of Statutory Overcrowding

| | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| On register at beginning of year | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Added to register during the year | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Abated during the year | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| On register at end of year | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Slum Clearance

During 1964 a survey of older properties in the Borough was completed and a programme for the clearance of sub-standard houses was recommended to and accepted by the Council. The programme extends over a period of ten years in two 5-year phases and is due for completion not later than 1975.

The issue in 1968 of the Government White Paper 'Old Houses into New Homes' provided a framework for future legislation intended to deal primarily with improvement of dwellings, but which may well change the emphasis from clearance to preservation by improvement. Provision is made in the White Paper for increased financial compensation to owner-occupiers in slum clearance areas and in many cases market value will be payable in respect of unfit properties.

I anticipate that this will have far reaching effects upon slum clearance action by reducing the numbers of objectors and the number of Public Inquiries'. The corollary might prove to be that with an undoubtedly fairer approach to compensation terms in slum clearance procedure the additional financial burden to local authorities could well slow down the rate of clearance.

Reference to Table 4 (a) and (b) shows that during 1968 action was initiated in respect of 52 unfit dwellings. This brings the total number of dwellings represented since the commencement of the programme to a total of 194.

Table 4. Slum Clearance Four-Year Progress Report

(a) Individual Unfit Houses

| | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of houses represented | 18 | 31 | 31 | 11 |
| Purchased by Council | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 18 | 31 | 31 | 11 |
| Number of Undertakings accepted | - | - | - | - |
| Number of Closing Orders | 6 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| Number of Closing Orders revoked | - | - | 3 | 1 |
| Number of Demolition Orders made | 6 | 31 | 8 | 25 |
| Totals | 12 | 33 | 12 | 33 |
| Number of houses vacated - | | | | |
| (a) By Council rehousing | 29 | 29 | 11 | 30 |
| (b) Otherwise | - | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Totals | 29 | 31 | 15 | 34 |
| Number of Families displaced | 8 | 31 | 14 | 31 |
| Number of Persons displaced | 22 | 105 | 42 | 81 |
| Number of houses closed and not subsequently demolished | 6 | 4 | 18 | 5 |
| Number of houses demolished | 6 | 2 | 40 | 8 |
| Totals | 12 | 6 | 58 | 13 |

(b) Clearance Areas

| | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Areas represented | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| Number of Houses involved | - | 62 | - | 41 |
| Number of houses vacated - | | | | |
| (a) By Council rehousing | 20 | 32 | 6 | 45 |
| (b) Otherwise | - | 9 | - | 12 |
| Totals | 20 | 41 | 6 | 57 |
| Number of Families displaced | 21 | 43 | 6 | 45 |
| Number of Persons displaced | 71 | 133 | 18 | 174 |
| Number of houses demolished | - | 9 | 55 | - |

## Fitness of Dwellings

During the year 141 houses were inspected as a routine measure and as a result 62 were repaired or improved as the result of action taken by the Department. Particulars of housing activities are summarised below.

1. Inspection of houses -

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 463 |
| (2) Number of inspections made in this connection (initial inspections, re-visits, work in progress etc.) | 1,107 |
| (3) Number of houses (included in (1)) above inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations | 55 |
| (4) Houses needing further action: | |
| (a) Number considered unfit for human habitation | 52 |
| (b) Number (excluding those in (a) above) considered to be not in all respects reasonably fit | 74 |

2. Remedy of defective conditions -

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Houses made fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of informal action | 62 |
| (2) Houses made fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of formal action:- | |
| (a) Housing Act | 1 |
| (b) Public Health Act | 1 |

## Houses in Multiple Occupation

The problems arising primarily from multi-occupation occur mainly in the larger towns, and the associated squalid conditions which resulted in the passing of Part II of the Housing Act of 1961 and the Housing Regulations of 1962 and Part IV of the Housing Act 1964 are not to be found in the Borough. The bulk of the one-time high class residential property which in old age, lends itself to multiple occupation, has largely disappeared as the result of slum clearance and commercial development.

At the time of preparing this Report the Housing Act 1969 has been added to the statute book and strengthens existing powers of control.

## Rent Act 1957

### Certificates of Disrepair

Table 5 gives particulars of applications dealt with by the Council since the Act came into operation some twelve years ago. No certificates were issued during 1968, and in fact only two applications have been received in the last seven years.

Table 5. Certificates of Disrepair Statistics

| | 1957/1968 |
|---|---|
| No. of applications for certificates of disrepair | 37 |
| No. of applications withdrawn | 1 |
| No. of decisions to issue certificates if no undertaking given to remedy | 33 |
| No. of undertakings given by landlords | 23 |
| No. of undertakings not accepted by Council | - |
| No. of certificates issued | 10 |
| No. of decisions not to issue certifactes | 3 |

## Improvement Grants

During the year under review improvement grants were subject to legislation and monetary limits that have now been substantially altered and are made more generous in terms with the advent of the Housing Act 1969.

### Standard Grants

In suitable cases the Standard Grant can be claimed as a right. The prime intention is to encourage owners to modernise houses having a useful life of fifteen years and to which, without major structural alteration, there can be added those 'standard amenities' not already provided. The 'standard amenities' comprise hot water supply, a fixed bath, a wash hand basin, an inside watercloset and a proper foodstore. (The Housing Act 1969 deletes the requirement as to foodstore provision.)

It is the Department's intention to co-ordinate slum clearance and improvement action. By these means it is anticipated that by the time all unfit houses have been dealt with there will be no dwellings in the Borough lacking in the 'standard amenities'.

Since the 1961 census revealed that some 13% of dwellings in the Borough were without fixed baths etc., the number of dwellings capable of improvement, excluding potential slum clearance properties have gradually decreased and it is estimated that only about 250 are without some or all of the 'standard amenities'.

### Discretionary Grants

The Discretionary Grant is available for more extensive improvement, for example, by the conversion of the larger Victorian type of house into flats. It is intended to apply to property with a normal life expectation of thirty years. A grant is paid solely at the discretion of the local authority and in addition to the 'standard amenities' may provide for the improvement of lighting, ventilation, heating and cooking facilities, and for works necessary to eliminate inherent structural defects such as dampness due to the lack of an effective damp proof course.

Whilst there were no applications in 1968 for this type of grant I think it probable that with the more generous provisions and greater discretion allowed to the local authority by the Housing Act 1969, we shall see an increase in this type of application. Most certainly it will be a trend to be encouraged in the fullest measure.

Table 6. Improvement Grants Statistics

| Type | Applications | | | Grants actually made | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Made | Approved | Refused | No. | £ |
| Standard | 28 | 28 | - | 16 | 1,838 |
| Discretionary | - | - | - | - | - |

Since grants were first available some twenty years ago, two hundred and twenty four houses have been improved with the aid of grants from the Council.

One looks forward with a sense of anticipation to the implementation of the Housing Act 1969 which should provide the necessary incentives to owners and occupiers of properties as well as local authorities to complete the task of providing these essential amenities at a greatly accelerated pace.

Under the terms of the new legislation the word 'discretionary' disappears and henceforth these grants will be known simply as 'Improvement Grants' although the local authority retain a discretion in the giving of their approval.

## Common Lodging Houses

The Minister asks for information about common lodging houses. There are no such premises in the Borough, the last having been demolished over a decade ago.

Section 235 of the Public Health Act 1936, defines a common lodging house as a house provided for the purposes of accommodating by night poor persons, not being members of the same family, who resort thereto and are allowed to occupy one room for the purposes of sleeping or eating. There is no evidence of need for such premises in the Borough these days.

Section Two

## AIR POLLUTION

General Conditions - Industrial Pollution - Smoke Control Areas - Road Vehicle Pollution - Atmospheric Pollution Records

### General Conditions

Pontefract is officially included in the West Riding Black Area. This indicates a disturbing level of atmospheric pollution, and calls for concerted action by all classes of fuel users to minimise pollution, irrespective of source. Un-necessary smoke from industry, domestic premises, rail and road vehicles must be prevented whenever the opportunity presents itself.

### Industrial Pollution

Industrial plant in the Borough no longer presents a major problem. There are 20 industrial and commercial chimneys, and with one or two exceptions call for no special attention. In those cases which proved to be not completely satisfactory representations to the firms concerned resulted in plans for schemes of improvement including the installation of new boiler plant in one case.

The Pontefract General Infirmary chimney near the town centre and within a smoke control area gave rise to a continuing problem of a fairly complicated technical nature. With the extension of buildings currently taking place it is anticipated that the increased demand for steam will eleviate the problem.

During the year 56 observations were made and the information collected was particularly useful in forming a basis for representations to premises requiring to improve upon standards of combustion.

At the time of writing additional Clean Air legislation has been added to the statute book providing for greater control over chimney heights and installation of boiler plant in many different kinds of premises. The greater control exercisable by the local authority should greatly help to prevent pollution in the years ahead.

### Smoke Control Areas

There are eight smoke control areas in operation in the Borough. The following Table gives particulars of acreage involved and the number of buildings on completion of all current housing commitments in 1968/1969.

Table 7. Smoke Control Area Progress

| No. of operative Orders | Number of premises | | | % of houses in the Borough controlled | Area in Acres | % of acreage in the Borough |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dwelling-houses | Industrial Commercial etc. | Total | | | |
| 8 | 1,905 | 137 | 2,042 | 20 | 981 | 20 |

The Council have always acknowledged the desirability of achieving a clean atmosphere and are actively associated with the West Riding Clean Air Council. In common with other local authorities in the West Riding where the basic industry is closely connected with coal mining, actions have been tempered by the local social and economic factors involved in introducing a programme of smoke control. In this context problems relating to 'concessionary coal' and the encouragement of continued use of solid smokeless fuels attains a high degree of priority. Current national economic problems have also to be taken into account in assessing the rate of progress and despite grants by Central Government a proportion of the cost involved in creating smoke control areas has to be met out of the rates.

The Council suffered a set-back to their clean air policy when solid fuel appliances installed on the Chequers Close Estate failed to measure up to expectations. Excessive fuel burning rates and widespread complaints of inadequacy of hot water caused legitimate concern to tenants and Council alike. Until such problems with their social overtones are overcome progress is inevitably retarded.

When using the phrase social overtones I am referring to the particular difficulty encountered by tenants who have often been re-housed from a slum clearance area where rents were low; subsequently they found themselves required to face a not insubstantial rent increase coupled with a higher fuel bill for smokeless fuel. In my opinion no amount of educational propaganda on the benefits of clean air and modern housing standards can offset the immediate prospect that a tenant on a fixed income faces when moving into such an area. The immediate prospect must be one of adjustment in his standard of living which in times of economic wage restraint is not easy.

Despite this there is an urgent need to press on with a clean air programme on a regular annual basis, for failure to do so implies an unfair discrimination against those living in the 20% already controlled.

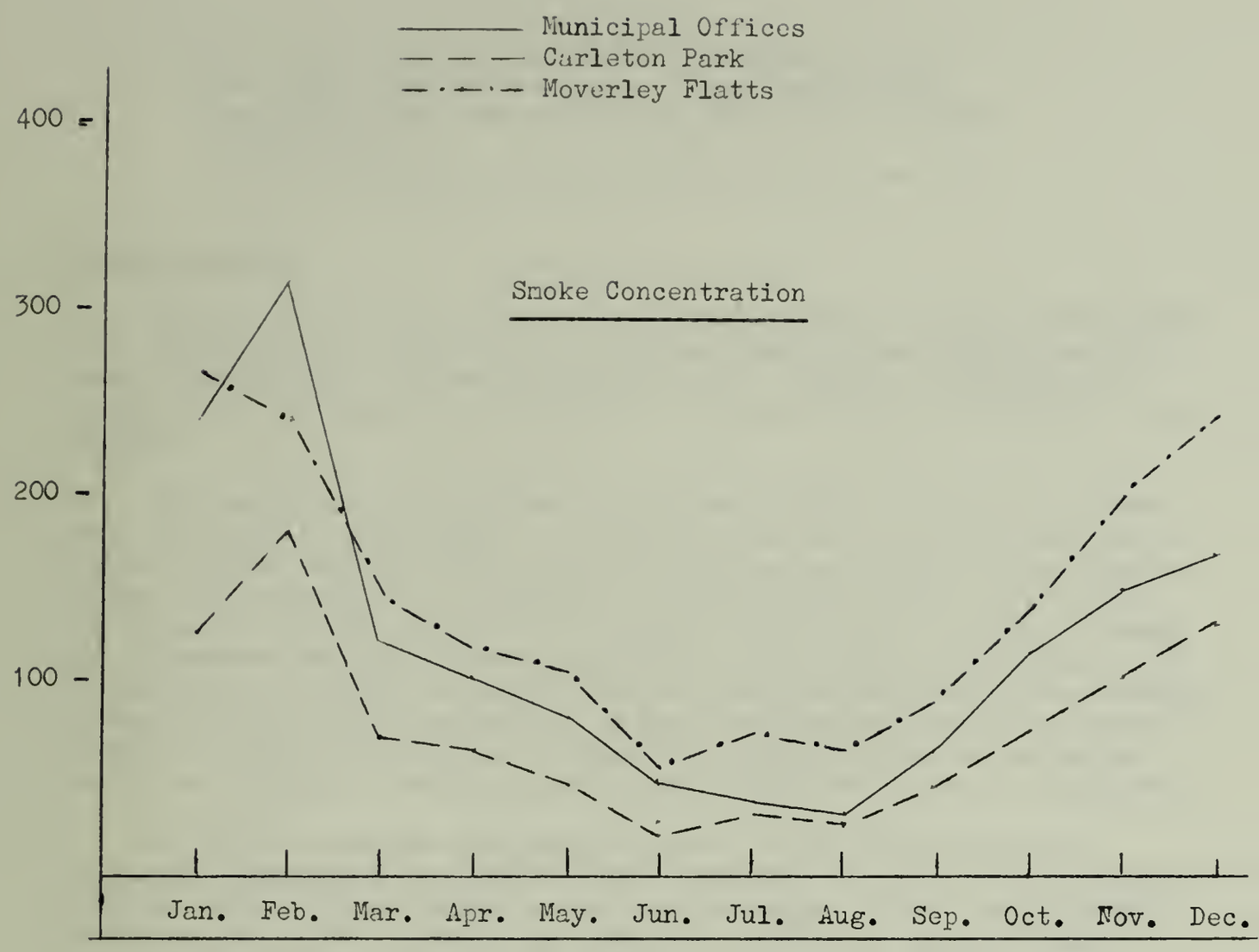
## Road Vehicle Pollution

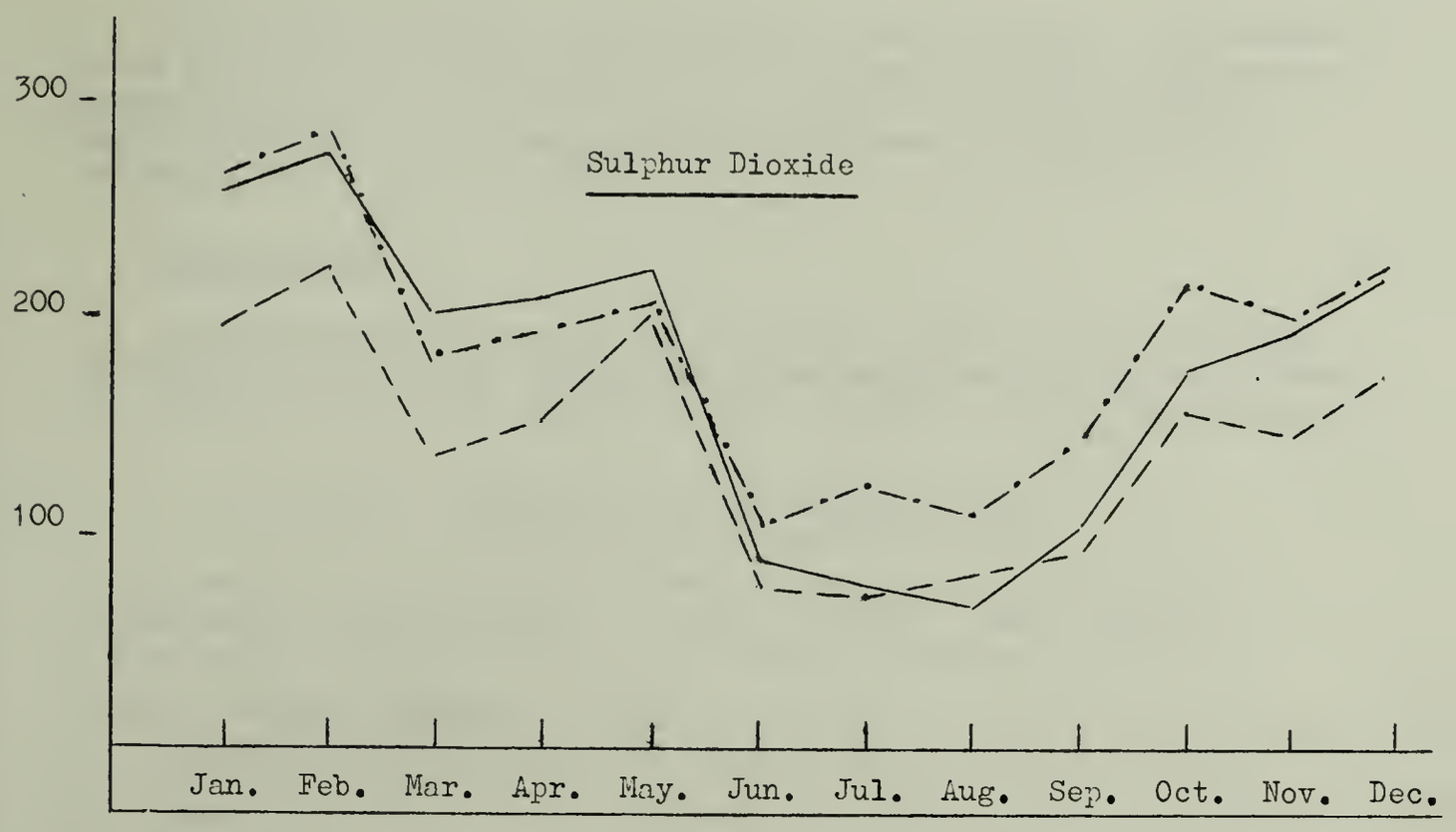
Unlike railway smoke, road vehicle pollution is not dealt with under the Clean Air Act, but by Regulations made under the Road Traffic Act and administered by the Police. Regulations made in 1966 require that 'every motor vehicle shall be so constructed that no avoidable smoke or visible vapour is emitted therefrom'. Further Regulations control the use of excess fuel devices. The statutory approach to the problem of road vehicle pollution is foremost that of public safety and not of public health.

## Atmospheric Pollution Records

The recording of atmospheric pollution was re-commenced in 1964 after a lapse occasioned by the sceptism of scientific authorities regarding the accuracy of old types of instruments formerly in widespread use.

More acceptable is the volumetric type of apparatus for the measurement of suspended impurity of which there are now three in use to sample daily the air in different parts of the town. The accompanying graphs clearly show the wide variation in levels of pollution that occur in the winter and summer months and also the difference in the degree of pollution in a smoke control area as compared with an area that is not subject to control.


Municipal Offices
Carleton Park
Moverley Flatts
400
300
200
100
Smoke Concentration
Jan.
Feb.
Mar.
Apr.
May.
Jun.
Jul.
Aug.
Sep.
Oct.
Nov.
Dec.


300
200
100
Sulphur Dioxide
Jan.
Feb.
Mar.
Apr.
May.
Jun.
Jul.
Aug.
Sep.
Oct.
Nov.
Dec.

## Section Three

## FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Inspection - Milk and Milk Products - General Food Inspection and Sampling - Food Premises and Processing - Sale of Food in the Open Air - Disposal of Unfit Food

### Meat Inspection

The most important aspect of the meat inspection service during the year continued to be the impact of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963. Local Authorities, by these Regulations, are required to implement a complete and efficient meat inspection service covering abattoirs in their district.

The Regulations are designed to achieve 100% inspection of carcase meat and offal in areas where previously it had not been possible; this did not affect the Department as a full and proper inspection service has always been maintained. Procedure for inspection, however, does call for a greater length of time to be spent at the Abattoir and it is usual for inspectors engaged on meat inspection to be present during the hours of slaughter, and also to ensure that ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations are efficiently carried out on six slaughtering days of each week. There has been no occasion to examine the length of hours of slaughter so far and amicable working relations exist with the abattoir management.

On the 1st November 1968 Regulation 40 of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations 1966 came into force. This regulation bans the use of wiping cloths in carcase dressing. Prior to this date the occupier of the abattoir had initiated the use of carcase water pressure sprays and coupled with improved cooling facilities there has been no difficulty in enforcing this requirement despite protests from within the trade itself.

During 1968 twenty-two whole carcases were condemned. In several cases the animal had been sent in for emergency slaughter. Subsequent post-mortem condition supported where necessary by bacteriological enquiry confirmed their inadmissibility for human consumption and accordingly they were rejected.

### Tuberculosis

The following Table shows the remarkable decline in the incidence of tuberculosis and must be objectively measured against the background of a 50% increase in the throughput which emphasises the point even more.

Table 8. Incidence of Tuberculosis in Food Animals during the past 14 years

| Incidence of Tuberculosis | 1955 | 1960 | 1965 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| % of animals affected - | | | | |
| Cattle excluding cows | 9.3 | 0.7 | 0.06 | 0.04 |
| Cows | 16.3 | 4.1 | - | - |
| Pigs | 2.1 | 0.7 | 0.32 | 0.38 |

When the disease is detected in bovines the facts are reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whose veterinary officers trace the animal back to the original herd where further detailed examinations take place in order to eradicate any others showing symptoms of the disease.

Incidence of Cysticercus Bovis

Fifteen beast carcases found to be affected with cysticercosis give a percentage incidence of almost double that of the previous year. In all cases cysts were found to be viable and localised in extent and were subsequently treated by refrigeration. Table 8(a) gives comparative figures of incidence over the past five years. The significance of this parasitic infection is that a viable cyst in undercooked meat can give rise to tapeworm in man when ingested. Refrigeration for specific periods of time at pre-determined temperatures will effectively destroy viable cysts, hence the refrigeration treatment after detection.

Table 8(a). Incidence of Cysticercus Bovis

| Year | No. of cases | % Incidence |
|---|---|---|
| 1964 | 17 | 0.92 |
| 1965 | 4 | 0.24 |
| 1966 | 6 | 0.40 |
| 1967 | 4 | 0.30 |
| 1968 | 15 | 0.55 |

All Diseases

A total of 22 whole carcases, 20 part carcases, 719 organs and parts were condemned, their total weight being 7 tons, 2 cwts. and 20 lbs. Table 9 gives particulars of the various classess of animals inspected and of condemnation.

Causes of Condemnation of whole Carcases.

1 cow - Septic Metritis
1 cow - Acute Septic Mastitis with gangrene

2 calves - Septicaemia
1 calf - Acute Enteritis
1 calf - Septic Pneumonia

1 pig - Decomposition
1 pig - Swine Erysipelas
1 pig - Septic Peritonitis
1 pig - Malignant Tumour with secondary growths

1 sheep - Septic Pneumonia
1 sheep - Lymphatic Leukaemia
1 sheep - Multiple Abscesses
1 sheep - Gangrene with Pyaemia
3 sheep - Pathological Emaciation
1 sheep - Emanciation with pathological oedema
1 sheep - Poor physical condition
1 sheep - Pyaemia

Table 9. Record of Meat Inspection and Incidence of Disease

| Class of Animal | Cattle (excluding Cows) | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number killed | 2,702 | 1,044 | 132 | 21,583 | 8,354 |
| Number inspected | 2,702 | 1,044 | 132 | 21,583 | 8,354 |
| All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci: | | | | | |
| Whole carcase condemned | - | 2 | 4 | 10 | 6 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 486 | 36 | - | 729 | 585 |
| % of animals inspected affected with disease | 17.9 | 3.6 | 3.03 | 3.4 | 0.70 |
| Tuberculosis only: | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | - | - | - | 32 |
| % of animals inspected affected with tuberculosis | 0.04 | - | - | - | 0.38 |
| Cysticerci only: | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 15 | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 15 | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - |

Total of all Animals Inspected 33,815

Milk Supply

As required by Article 8 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, a register is kept of all persons carrying on the trade of milk distributor from premises in the Borough, and of all premises in the district which are used as dairies (except dairy farms, which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food). Table 10 gives particulars of the changes made during the year and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 10. Registration of Dairies and Milk Distributors

| Particulars of changes | Dairies | Distributors | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | From Shops | Others |
| No. on Register at 1st January | 3 | 42 | 8 |
| No. in respect of which new applications were made | - | - | 5 |
| No. removed from register - | | | |
| Trading ceased | - | - | - |
| No. on register at 31st December | 3 | 42 | 13 |

Generally, the standard of distribution is satisfactory. Violations of the Milk and Dairies Regulations in relation to storage and distribution have not necessitated formal action, although it was necessary to give formal warning to a local dairy regarding the cleanliness of milk bottles at the time of retail sale.

Thirty-six samples of pasteurised milk ready for sale, were taken during the course of the year for examination for compliance with the standards laid down by the Regulations. Thirty of the samples produced satisfactory results the remaining six failed to pass the provisional Methylene Blue test.

No untreated or raw milk producers retail in the Borough and no investigations for the detection of Brucella Abortus organisms were undertaken.

## Ice-Cream Manufacture and Sale

As required by Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, an ice-cream register is kep of all premises used for the sale, manufacture and storage for sale of ice-cream. Table 11 sets out the position during the year.

Table 11. Registration of Ice-Cream Premises

| Particulars of changes | Sale and Storage | Manufacture, sale and storage |
|---|---|---|
| No. on register at 1st January | 89 | 1 |
| No. in respect of which new applications were made | 1 | - |
| No. of registrations cancelled | 5 | - |
| No. of changes in occupation | 2 | - |
| No. on register at 31st December | 87 | 1 |

There is now only one ice-cream manufactory in the Borough and the standard of hygiene during the year was satisfactory.

Nine manufacturers are registered to sell their ice-cream from vehicles in the Borough. Such vehicles must meet the standard laid down by statute and included is the provision of hot water for hand washing and other measures for preventing contamination of ice-cream.

There is no test for the bacteriological grading of ice-cream which is considered satisfactory for use as a statutory test, but on the Provisional Grading at present in operation the samples of ice-cream taken during the year may be grouped as follows:-

Table 12. Ice-Cream Grading (Methylene Blue Test)

| Grades | Official Standard | Local figures for year 1968 | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | No. | Percentage |
| 1 | Not less than 50% | 15 | 57% |
| 1 and 2 | Not less than 80% | 20 | 77% |
| 3 | Not more than 20% | 5 | 19% |
| 4 | Nil | 1 | 4% |

General Food Inspection and Sampling

In addition to the inspection of meat at the Abattoir, shops were visited from time to time for the inspection of meat and other foods. During the period under review the following total quantities of unfit food were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 970 lbs. | tinned meats | 66 lbs. | chocolates and sweets |
| 580 lbs. | carcase meat | 15 lbs. | tinned fruit |
| 103 lbs. | cooked meats | 5 lbs. | tinned vegetables |
| | | 38 lbs. | various foods |

Total weight - 15 cwts. 3 qrs. and 13 lbs.

Also during the year, 1,228 packets of various frozen foods and 198 packets of ice-cream were condemned as a result of refrigeration failure.

Bacteriological Examination of Food and Prepared Swabs

During 1968 sampling of food for bacteriological purposes continued as in previous years; the results obtained, although of no statutory significance, provided the Department with much useful information.

All the foods referred to in Table 13 were sampled by purchasing in shops precisely in the same manner as a customer would make a purchase. Although ten articles were classified as unsatisfactory no pathogenic organisms were detected.

Table 13. Articles of Food Submitted to Bacteriological Examination

| | No. of samples | Results | | % satis factory |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Satis-factory | Unsatis-factory | |
| Meat or Meat Products | 27 | 25 | 2 | 92 |
| Cream | 14 | 8 | 6 | 57 |
| Prawns | 2 | - | 2 | -- |
| Coconut | 1 | 1 | - | 100 |
| Misc. Foods | 10 | 10 | - | 100 |

There are no statutory standards by which the bacteriological condition can be assessed but it is generally accepted that in foodstuffs a bacteriological report indicating a 'heavy or good growth' of organisms rather implies that the organisms are excessive especially with cooked foods. When counts are found to be over 100,000 per gramme in raw or cooked foods than an unsatisfactory result is recorded in the Table. An unsatisfactory classification tends to indicate unsatisfactory handling or preparation or subsequent unsatisfactory storage of the article of food thus providing sufficient evidence for the Inspector to carry out further detailed investigation into one or all of these aspects.

Equipment Swabbing

From time to time the swabbing of equipment and working surfaces in food premises is undertaken and provides information on the effectiveness of cleaning operations in those premises. Any unsatisfactory results are followed up by advice and further tests to ensure compliance with recommendations.

Table 14. Equipment Swabbing

| No. of samples | Results | | % satis-factory |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | |
| 44 | 41 | 3 | 93 |

With the swabbing of utensils, crockery and work and wall surfaces a good result would be regarded as less than 100 colonies per swab and between 100 and 1,000 probably reasonable. In excess of the latter figure then the result may be regarded as unsatisfactory. Should the presence of pathogenic organisms be detected then it becomes a matter of considerable concern and calls for concerted action by the food worker and public health inspector alike and a full scale enquiry is mounted.

## Sewer Swabbing

It has become an established practice in the Department to place in sewers and dykes in the Borough, swabs specially prepared by the Public Health Laboratory Service. These are removed after 48 hours and examined for evidence of pathogenic organisms. In none of the swabs referred to in Table 16 were there any pathogenic organisms isolated.

Table 16. Sewer Swabbing

| No. of samples | Results | | % satis-factory |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | |
| 41 | 41 | - | 100 |

## Food Premises

The conditions under which food for sale is prepared and handled in the factories, warehouses, shops, restaurants and hotels in the Borough occupied much of the Department's time although with increasing demands made by other aspects of our work not least that of meat inspection, frequency of visits is below the ideal one would wish to attain.

In food premises a high standard of food hygiene can be obtained providing the basic needs of adequate accommodation and service are satisfied. Generally premises in the Borough are satisfactory although a minority demand frequent attention.

Table 16 gives figures indicative of the Department's activities in this field during 1968.

Table 16. Inspection of Food Premises

| No. of visits paid to food premises | No. of food rooms inspected | No. of offences noted under Food Hygiene Regulations | No. of offences outstanding at end of year |
|---|---|---|---|
| 238 | 831 | 251 | 79 |

The numbers of the different classes of food premises as at the end of the year under review are given in Table 17 overleaf. Of the total premises, 102 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955; 87 of these, as already indicated, are ice-cream premises, the remaining being registered for the manufacture of made-up meats, etc.

No certificates of exemption have been issued by the Council in connection with the requirements of Regulation 16 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 relating to the provision of wash hand basins.

Table 16. Food Premises according to Trade at end of Year

| Class of Premises | Manufacture or Preparation | Distribution | Total | Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | No. complying with Reg. 16 | No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies | No. complying with Reg. 19 |
| General Grocery | - | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 |
| Bread and Confectionery | 7 | 9 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Sugar Confectionery | 2 | 20 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 |
| Greengrocer, fish, game and poultry | 3 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Butcher and Meat Preparation | 15 | 22 | 37 | 37 | 37 | 37 |
| Chemists | - | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Fish Frying | 16 | - | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Public Houses and Clubs | - | 53 | 53 | 53 | 53 | 53 |
| Off Licence premises | - | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Cafes, Snack Bars and Canteens | 35 | - | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| Church premises (kitchens) | 6 | - | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Beer and Mineral water bottling | 3 | - | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Miscellaneous | 3 | 9 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Totals | 90 | 209 | 299 | 299 | 299 | 299 |

## Sale of Food in the Open Air

### West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951

As required by Section 76(1) of this Act, registers are kept of persons hawking food in the Borough and hawkers' storage premises. Table 18 gives the numbers of each trade carried on.

Table 18. Food Hawkers according to Trade

| Trade | Number |
|---|---|
| Butcher | 10 |
| Butcher and Grocer | 2 |
| Greengrocer | 19 |
| Greengrocer and Fishmonger | 4 |
| Greengrocer and Confectioner | 1 |
| Grocer and Confectioner | 8 |
| Bread and Confectioner | 6 |
| Ice-Cream | 17 |
| Fishmonger | 7 |
| Hot-dogs | 14 |
| Grocer, Butcher and Fishmonger | 1 |
| Total | 89 |

### The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

These Regulations came into force on the 1st January 1967 and implementation has involved the Department in considerable amount of work in advising and ensuring that the standard set out in the Regulations are complied with. In matters of food hygiene the Department's inspectors experience much difficulty in keeping track of mobile shops. Efforts to control this type of trading involved the Department in some 130 inspections during the year and some 62 informal warnings were given to traders for some aspect of non-compliance with the Regulations.

## Disposal of Unfit Food

All unfit food should be disposed of in such a manner that it cannot later, by accident or otherwise, be used for human consumption. In particular the disposal of diseased meat from slaughterhouses and all knacker meat, must be under strict control.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960, recently superseded by The Meat (Sterilization) Regulations 1969, required with certain exceptions, that unfit meat should be sterilised, and all knacker meat stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution as pet food, or for processing for any purpose. The principal exception

is unfit meat from slaughterhouses which do not have their own sterilisation plant; such meat must be sent to processors under arrangements approved by the appropriate public health officers.

A great deal of unfit meat is brought into the Borough for sterilisation at factories referred to later in this Report under the heading of Offensive Trades. Co-ordination between the Department and the source authorities has been maintained; every effort made to ensure compliance with the Regulations at all collection points.

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Section Four

## OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE - SAFETY AND WELFARE

Factories - Outworkers - Offices - Shops - Other Workplaces

The Department shares responsibility for hygiene and welfare in places of employment with the Factory Inspectorate. So far as non-industrial premises are concerned recent legislation in the form of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act of 1963 has increased considerably the local authority's responsibilities. Standards have been prescribed by Act and Regulations made thereunder and in the year under review work was primarily concerned with ensuring that all registered premises complied with the requirements of the Act based on advice given by your Inspectors.

Implementation of the Act calls for a special report to be submitted to the appropriate Minister annually on matters of information and work carried out by the Local Authority Inspectorate, in enforcing the Act and its Regulations amd a more comprehensive Report was given under separate cover earlier this year.

### Factories

The term 'factory' as used in the Factory Acts, includes all premises where articles are made, altered or repaired for purposes of gain.

The register of factories, kept by the Council pursuant to section 8(3) of the Act, contains particulars of 96 factories and building sites and Table 19 gives information relating to inspections, notices and defects found and remedied.

Table 19. Factories Records - 1968

| | No. on Register | Inspections made | No. of written notices | Defects | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Found | Remedied |
| Factories without mechanical power | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Factories with mechanical power | 90 | 47 | 21 | 29 | 19 |
| Building sites | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 96 | 52 | 21 | 29 | 19 |

### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During 1968 detailed general inspections continued as did a considerable number of re-visits to check on works put in hand by employers. The only registered premises not to have received a general inspection

were those in covered markets to which special Regulations will apply in due course and at the present time are not required to be inspected.

As in previous years plans submitted to the local authority are examined and matters likely to be affected by the Act are made the subject of consultation with architects and developers before they come into useful occupation. This action prevents practical difficulties arising at a later date, and avoids resentment arising. I would only add that with local architects there exists a splendid degree of co-operation.

A considerable amount of time has been devoted to implementation of the Act, and it is pleasing to record that co-operation of employers has so far precluded recourse to statutory enforcement.

Table 20. Registration and General Inspections

(a)

| | No. of premises newly registered during the year | Total No. of registered premises at end of year | No. of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year |
|---|---|---|---|
| Offices | 5 | 81 | 40 |
| Retail Shops | 7 | 187 | 70 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | - | 8 | 2 |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | 1 | 44 | 22 |
| Fuel storage depots | - | - | - |
| Totals | 13 | 320 | 134 |

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

248

(b)

| No. of premises on register at end of year | No. of premises receiving a general inspection | Total No. of rooms inspected | No. of offences recorded during year | No. of premises found to comply with the Act |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 320 | 134 | 490 | 192 | 63 |

Table 21. Summary of Offences

| Section or Regulation of the Act | | No. of offences dealt with during 1968 |
|---|---|---|
| 4 | Cleanliness | 38 |
| 5 | Overcrowding | - |
| 4 and 16 | Cleanliness and maintenance of floors and steps (accident prevention) | 14 |
| 6 | Temperature | 13 |
| 7 | Ventilation | 3 |
| 8 | Lighting | 8 |
| 9 (Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964) | Sanitary conveniences | 39 |
| 10 (Washing Facilities Regulations, 1964) | Washing facilities | 25 |
| 11 | Supply of Drinking Water | - |
| 12 | Accommodation for clothing | - |
| 13 | Sitting facilities | - |
| 14 | Seating for sedentary work | 2 |
| 15 | Eating facilities | - |
| 16 | Safety aspect of floors, passages and stairs | 23 |
| 17 (Dangerous Machines Order, 1964) | Fencing of exposed parts of machinery | - |
| 18 | Avoidance of exposure of young persons to danger in cleaning machinery | - |
| 23 | Prohibition of heavy work | - |
| 24 (First-Aid Order, 1964) | First-Aid:, General Provisions | 13 |
| 49 | Registration | - |
| 50 (The Information for Employees Regulations, 1965) | Provision of Abstract of the Act | 15 |
| | Total | 193 |

Table 22. Analysis of recorded particulars of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

| Class of workplace | No. of persons employed |
|---|---|
| Offices | 799 |
| Retail shops | 1,042 |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses | 84 |
| Catering establishments open to the public | 238 |
| Canteens | - |
| Fuel storage depots | - |
| Total | 2,163 |
| Total Males | 887 |
| Total Females | 1,276 |

# HYGIENE IN PLACES OF PUBLIC RESORT

## Swimming Baths - Refreshment Houses

### Public Swimming Baths - Bacterial Control of Water

The two swimming baths (adult's and children's indoor baths) are filled at the beginning of each season from the public supply, and operate on the continuous filtration system, with sterilisation by chlorination. Samples were taken regularly to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory conditions. Ninety-nine samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and the results given in Table 23, along with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, indicate the satisfactory standard attained during the year.

Table 23. Swimming Baths' Water: Results of Examination

| | Standard recommended by Ministry of Health | Results from Baths | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Large | Small |
| No. of samples taken | - | 49 | 50 |
| No. of samples containing coliform organisms in 100 ml. water | None | 2 | 1 |
| Percentage of number of samples submitted to plate count and containing in 1 ml. water - | | | |
| (a) 0 - 10 colonies | not less than 75% | 83% | 88% |
| (b) 11 - 100 colonies | not more than 25% | 17% | 12% |
| (c) Over 100 colonies | None | 0% | 0% |

### Paddling Pool

The paddling pool in the Valley Gardens has proved to be a popular addition to the Gardens. Frequency of water changes, and methods of bacterial and algal control, have been recommended to the Parks' Department and the efficiency of these is checked regularly during the summer months.

### Refreshment Houses

Under this heading I refer to all restaurants, public houses and clubs. When these premises are visited under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, inspection is made at the same time for adequacy of toilet facilities under section 89 of the Public Health Act 1936. Conditions were generally satisfactory. In several instances informal recommendations secured improvements.

## Section Six

## PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

### Water Supply - Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage Disposal

### Water Supply

On 1st April 1962, the Corporation's Water Undertaking was transferred to the newly-formed Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board. Before the take-over it had been the practice of the Chief Public Health Inspector to sample at the several sources and record and classify the results in this Report. Whilst the Corporation no longer supplies water, it is still very much its concern that the water supplied within the Borough shall be satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Sampling within the Borough has therefore continued, and all waters taken for chemical analysis were reported upon as being of good organic quality.

During the year under review some 355 samples of piped water were submitted for bacteriological examination and 333 were reported upon as satisfactory. In the case of the 22 samples which fell below standard, subsequent investigation revealed that problems arose out of the repair or renewal of sections of the mains system. Because of the fullest co-operation that exists with officers of the Water Board the appropriate remedial measures were taken and at no time were the public at risk.

All of the 9,978 dwellinghouses in the Borough are connected to the public supply and have water available within each dwelling; there are none supplied by standpipe.

In the matter of supply, occasional difficulty in maintaining water pressures occurred during the year, particularly at times of peak demand. These difficulties have now been resolved with virtual completion of major development schemes prepared by the Water Board.

A typical report on a sample of water is given as follows:

| | Parts per million |
|---|---|
| Total solids ... ... ... ... | 200 |
| Chloride ... ... ... ... | 26 |
| Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$ ... ... ... | 124 |
| Total Hardness ... ... ... | 150 |
| Permanent Hardness ... ... ... | 26 |
| Temporary Hardness ... ... ... | 124 |
| Lead, Copper, Zinc ... ... ... | Nil |
| Iron ... ... ... ... ... | 0.1 |
| Manganese ... ... ... ... ... | Nil |
| Free Ammonia ... ... ... | 0.01 |
| Albuminoid Ammonia ... ... ... | 0.01 |
| Nitrous Nitrogen ... ... ... | Nil |
| Nitric Nitrogen ... ... ... | 2.2 |
| Free Chlorine ... ... ... | Nil |
| Fluorine ... ... ... | Nil |
| pH ... | 7.4 |

Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Borough is well sewered, there being only fifty properties not served by public sewer. Twelve properties in the Borough are served by private disposal plants, thirty-eight by cesspools and the remainder representing 99% of the total, are connected to the public sewerage. Sanitary accommodation of the conservancy type (mainly chemical) exists at only eight houses and at one other property.

By March 1970 it is expected that the Joint Treatment Works at Brotherton will become operational and the existing local authority operated sewage disposal plant at Knottingley Road will be abandoned by reason of inadequate capacity and obsolesence.

## Section Seven

## PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

Control of Offensive Trades - Animal Hygiene - Noise Abatement - Moveable Dwellings - Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

### Control of Offensive Trades

Offensive trades within the meaning of section 107(1)(i) of the Public Health Act 1936, are carried on at two premises in the Borough, the trades concerned being those of bone boiler, fat extractor, fat melter, fellmonger, glue maker and size maker. A further trade carried on is the concentration and sterilisation of vegetable and animal waste, declared by the Council to be an offensive trade pursuant to their powers under paragraph (ii)(b) of the sub-section.

These trades provide a necessary and valuable public health service. Without the presence of these trades organic waste would be a source of acute embarrasment to the meat trades in particular. Large quantities of waste organic material, some of it already in an advanced state of decay, are brought on to these premises and not only rendered innocuous, but converted into useful commodities which frequently find their way into the export market.

During 1968 strict and regular attention was given to the two firms concerned in these trades. Some 72 detailed inspections in addition to many snap inspections were undertaken.

The Corporation have taken all reasonably practicable measures to control offensive trades. The management concerned are anxious not to cause offence, and give considerable attention to improvement of the plant and the processes carried on.

In the planning conscious world we live in it is likely that offensive trades would not be permitted to become established in residential areas. Where however they are long established one can only endeavour to mitigate the possibility of nuisance arising by dint of inspection.

### Animal Hygiene

Apart from the nuisance potential of animals kept under unsatisfactory conditions, animal diseases may effect, directly or indirectly the public health. The control of conditions, therefore, under which animals are kept, whether they be animals on sale in pet shops, or food animals awaiting slaughter, or animals on agricultural holdings, is a matter which must concern the Department.

#### The Pet Animals Act 1951

This Act, provides for the licensing of pet shops by the local authority who, before granting a licence must be satisfied that animals for sale will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, be adequately supplied

with suitable food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals; that precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of diseases among animals, and that steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency. There are two licensed premises in the Borough, at which satisfactory conditions obtained during the year.

### The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

Requirements of the Act are somewhat similar to those contained in the Pet Animals Act. Administration of the Act is made the responsibility of the local authority who must be satisfied that animals will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temeperature, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness, be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and visited and exercised at suitable intervals, and ensure that suitable steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

During the year one licence was issued in respect of premises to be used for the boarding of dogs. Inspections were made from time to time and on each occasion the business was found to be well conducted.

### Riding Establishments Act 1964

During the year under review only one establishment situated in Townville was licensed for use. No complaints were made regarding the conduct of the premises.

## Noise Abatement

In addition to the provisions of the noise Abatement Act of 1960 Byelaws relating to noise nuisance have been in force in the Borough for many years dealing with such matters as sounding musical instruments or singing in the streets to the annoyance of occupants of houses, offices, churches or hospitals. The West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act of 1951 provides legislation on similar lines and restricts the use of loudspeakers in the streets.

The department is equipped with sound measuring equipment and have used it in monitoring alleged noise nuisance from industrial sources.

In connection with this latter aspect some 20 inspections were made during 1968. In only two cases was it necessary to require the abatement of noise nuisance and this was secured informally at two factories concerned.

## Moveable Dwellings

Control of caravans is exercised by the Caravan Site and Control of Development Act of 1960 and the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951. In the former case control can be exercised by both Planning and Local Authorities in connection with site licensing. The function of the West Riding Act is to prohibit the use in certain cases, sites frequented by itinerant dwellers. One such site is designated in the Borough and since the date of the making of the Order early in 1965 it has been kept free of caravans.

Sporadic problems occurred during the year with itinerant dwellers parking their vehicles on the periphery of the Borough. Informal action subsequently resolved the problems.

## Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act of 1951 is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles, and during 1962 Regulations were made under this Act, superseding earlier Regulations, and bringing up-to-date the standards of cleanliness required in relation to the several kinds of filling materials to which the Act applies.

The Act provides for the registration by the local authority of premises upon which filling materials are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and one such factory is registered with the Council. Regular inspections are made including the taking of samples for analysis and all the samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

## Section Eight

## PEST CONTROL

### Rodent Control Service - Verminous Infestation

Rodent Control Service

The Council is responsible for the Administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 so far as this Act relates to rodent infestation. Routine measures were taken to ensure, so far as practicable, the freedom from infestation of all premises in their own occupation; owners and occupiers of infested properties were required to face up to their responsibilities under the Act and a Rodent Control Service was maintained by the Corporation, available to householders free of charge and to others at a charge which covers the cost of treatment.

The Act places on local authorities a specific duty to inspect their district for infestations, and for much of his time the senior rodent operative was engaged on the discovery of infestations, and the organisation of treatments on 'block control' principles. Table 24 gives statistics relating to known incidence of infestations and to disinfestation measures taken during 1968.

Table 24. Rodent Control Statistics

| Properties | Type of Property | |
|---|---|---|
| | Non-Agricultural | Agricultural |
| No. of premises in the district | 11,261 | 32 |
| No. of properties (including adjacent premises) inspected following notification | 534 | - |
| No. infested by (a) rats | 238 | - |
| (b) mice | 163 | - |
| No. of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | 100 | 5 |
| No. infested by (a) rats | 45 | 2 |
| (b) mice | 23 | - |

During 1968 treatment of all sewers in the Borough was undertaken. Results indicated that the sewerage system is relatively free from infestation and minor influx of rodents were dealt with by follow-up treatments using 'Warfarin'.

Reports in certain parts of the country show that reserves of rats have become immune to the poison 'Warfarin' probably the most common

method of control exercised at the present time. 'Warfarin' is an anti-coagulant and has been very successful in reducing the rodent population in recent years. There is no evidence in the Borough that rodents have become immune and its use is continued alongside older established poisoning techniques.

## Verminous Premises

During the year two houses were treated for vermin. This low rate of incidence illustrates the pattern which has emerged in the post-war years.

In several cases people have produced insects at the Department for identification, but in none was there any public health problem.

## Section Nine

## ADMINISTRATION AND RECORDS

### Tabular Statement of Inspections made and Notices Served

The Public Health Officers Regulations require the recording of inspections made, the preparation of a tabular statement relating to the number and nature of these, to notices served and the results obtained. I have given as accurate a picture as possible in the statement, but when, at one visit, premises are dealt with comprehensively under two or more headings, difficulties in recording can arise.

Table 25. Nature and Number of Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors and Assistant staff during 1968.

| Nature of Inspections | Number made |
|---|---|
| **Housing Inspections and Enquiries:** | |
| For unfitness, repair or demolition of unfit houses | 327 |
| Improvement with grant aid | 133 |
| Area Improvement | 449 |
| Following applications under Rent Act for certificates of disrepair | 3 |
| Overcrowding and computation of 'permitted numbers' | 2 |
| Investigations into multiple occupation | 5 |
| **Air Pollution Inspections and Enquiries:** | |
| Industrial smoke observations | 56 |
| Inspection of boiler plant | 23 |
| Investigation of smoke nuisances (Clean Air Act - Sec.16) | 18 |
| Smoke control area enquiries | 1,343 |
| **Food Hygiene Inspections and Enquiries:** | |
| Visits to Abattoir for meat inspection | 583 |
| Number of carcases examined | 33,815 |
| Visits to shops for meat inspection | 12 |
| Investigations into sale of food in the open air | 130 |
| Investigations under Milk and Dairies Regulations | 19 |
| Visits to food premises - | |
| Investigations under Food Hygiene Regulations | 238 |
| Number of food rooms inspected | 831 |

| Nature of Inspections | Number made |
|---|---|
| **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:** | |
| All enquiries and inspections | 248 |
| **Occupational Hygiene Inspections and Enquiries:** | |
| For staff welfare in Factories | 48 |
| Other works (building sites) | 4 |
| Outworkers premises | 2 |
| **Visits to Places of Public Resort:** | |
| Sanitary Accommodation, inspection under Section 89 of Public Health Act 1936 | 21 |
| Inspection of Hairdressing Establishments (West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951) | 16 |
| **Hygiene and the Public Health Services:** | |
| Water Supply | 24 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal, inspections and enquiries | 25 |
| Sewerage and Sewage disposal and general drainage inspections (excluding housing defects) | 70 |
| **Investigations connected with the prevention and abatement of nuisances, et cetera:** | |
| Offensive Trades | 72 |
| Moveable dwellings and sites | 64 |
| Noise nuisances | 20 |
| Statutory nuisances (including housing defects) | 663 |
| Infectious diseases and food poisoning enquiries | 56 |
| For verminous conditions | 11 |
| **Inspections and Enquiries connected with Pest Control:** | |
| For rodent infestation (mainly by Rodent Control Staff) | 2,136 |
| For other pests | 39 |
| Pet Animals Act 1951 | 2 |
| Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 | 3 |

| Nature of Inspections | Number made |
|---|---|
| Riding Establishments Act 1964 | 1 |
| Miscellaneous Enquiries and Visits (including site meetings with architects, builders, etc. and giving of advice to public in their homes and delivery of samples to laboratories, etc.) | 680 |
| Sampling: | |
| Water (Bacteriological and Chemical samples) | 359 |
| Swimming Baths water | 99 |
| Paddling Pool water | 23 |
| Milk | 36 |
| Other Foods | 54 |
| Ice-Cream | 20 |
| Milk Churn Rinses | 18 |
| Milk Bottles for Cleanliness | 16 |
| Equipment Swabs | 44 |
| Sewer Swabs | 41 |
| Sampling in connection with Infectious Diseases | 13 |

Table 25. Number of Notices Served and the Result of Service

| Act or Section under which or, in the case of informal notices, preliminary to which, notice was served | No. of Informal Notices | | | | | No. of Statutory Notices | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Outstanding from 1967 (a) | Served in 1968 (b) | Total of these (c) | Complied with (d) | Outstanding at end of 1968 (e) | Outstanding from 1967 (f) | Served in 1968 (g) | Total of these (h) | Complied with (i) | Work done by L.A. (j) | Outstanding at end of 1968 (k) |
| Public Health Act 1936: Housing Defects: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Section 39, 40, 44, 45 and 51 | 2 | 23 | 25 | 21 | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Section 93 | 3 | 30 | 33 | 26 | 7 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Public Health Act 1936: Other Premises: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Section 39 | - | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Section 75 | - | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Section 93 | - | 8 | 8 | 8 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Public Health Act 1961: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Section 17 | - | 11 | 11 | 11 | - | - | 9 | 9 | 2 | 7 | - |
| Housing Act 1957: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Section 9 | - | 5 | 5 | 5 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Section 4 | 1 | 70 | 71 | 67 | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Section 6 | - | 10 | 10 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |